

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 32 as follows:

With reference to FIGS. 1 and 3, the sub-assembly 1 comprises headgear in the form of a flexible head covering 3 which is also extended downwards over the shoulders of the user, and a substantially rigid profiled ring 4 attached to the head covering so as to encircle the face of the user at an appropriate spacing when the head covering is donned. The ring 4 and covering 3 are secured together around the whole of their mating edges and additional adjustable ties 5 are provided between these elements to assist in supporting the ring 4 and the second sub-assembly 2 when the latter is added. The ring 4 also carries a profiled elastomeric gasket 6 which extends into sealing engagement around the periphery--brow, temples, cheeks and chin--of the user's face when the head covering is donned.